KINGDOM OF ESWATINI

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

**DATE:** 3 July 2026

# UPDATE ON WEEK 31 AND 32 OF FMD RESPONSE

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This report highlights the FMD control activities for week 31 (12th to the 16th January 2026) and week 32 (19tht to 23rd January 2026). The activities include the FMD vaccination, awareness activities, sanitary controls and animal movements in the FMD affected areas of the country.

## 2. WEEK 31 AND 32 REPORTS

There were only 500 doses of FMD vaccine left, these were used to vaccinate some cattle in Zombodze dip tank, in Nhlangano. The vaccination targeted cattle which were sharing pastures will animals from non-infected dip tanks.

In week 31, there was the BVI mission.

In week 32, inspection was done in most dip tanks in all four regions of the country to establish the extent of the spread of the FMD. During the week, awareness and sensitization was done at Zombodze and Maphumzane communities. Lastly, the NDMA, REPS and veterinary staff viewed and agreed on new sites for establishing FMD control check points.

## 3. INSPECTIONS

Several dip tanks were inspected in the past two reporting weeks. The inspections were as follows;

a. **Luve/ Mliba Area** – A total of 11 dip tanks were inspected and FMD suspect cases were seen in nine dip tanks. Dip tanks with suspects were Mbuzi, Mpameni, Mabiya, Manzana, Mbangamadze, Sincuduma, Busiti, Croydon and Mncweba. No cases were found at Lubisana and Bhalekane Prison.

a. **Ngculwini** – A total of 3 dip tanks were inspected in this sub region. No major findings were noted at Ndlandlameni. But, Mhlamanti and Nhlangano had suspect cases.

b. **Lubombo** – Vikizijula and Bhodlongo were inspected and a few suspect cases were seen. No suspect cases were seen at Diamond C.

c. **Nhlangano** – Ntimakati and Zombodze A were inspected and found to be having suspect cases. No cases were seen at Hhabela, which is a contact of Zombodze dip tank.

## 4. AWARENESS AND SENSITIZATION

Two awareness and sensitization meetings were held in week 32. These were;

- Zombodze community on Wednesday the 21st January 2026. The meeting was held at Zombodze Umphakatsi where approximately 70 people attended. These included community members, the Zombodze local authorities, the MP, the retired veterinary staff, VAs, AHIs and VOs. An update of the current FMD status was discussed. The community was then made aware of measures to be employed in order to prevent the spread of the disease. The people appreciated this awareness and promised to ensure that the disease is contained within the already affected area.

- Maphumzane stock farmers at Maphumzane dip tank. These people were made aware of the current FMD outbreak and how to prevent the disease from spreading.

## 5. VACCINATION REPORT

A total of **450 cattle** were vaccinated for the first time at Zombodze Dip Tank during week 32. This vaccination targeted cattle that were sharing grazing areas with cattle from non-infected dip tanks.

## 6. CHECK POINTS

Relocation of Mbadlane and Mkhuzweni FMD control check points will commence in the coming week. One check point will be placed at Nhlambeni along the Yithi Abantu Highway, another will be placed at Gum Tree and a mini checkpoint will be established at Sidzakeni.

## 7. REPORT/ FEEDBACK FROM HODs

The following issues were reported and discussed by the Acting DVLS;

a. BVI will supply 70 000 doses of the trivalent FMD vaccine by the 16th February 2026. This is the first batch which will kick start the mass vaccination.

b. The Veterinary Officers were instructed to craft a strategy for mass vaccination. It was agreed that drafting of the mass vaccination strategy will start on Monday the 26th January 2026 and will be finalized on Friday the 30th January 2026. It will then be presented to the HODs on Monday the 2nd February 2026.

## 8. ACTIVITIES FOR WEEK 33

i. Inspections

The following dip tanks will be inspected in the coming week;

- Dlokweni, Maphophoma and Masunkula in the Luve/ Mliba area.
- Mpetsa, Sifutfweni, Magoga, Sidwashini and Magonogoni in the Hhohho region will be inspected because of their proximity to Mpameni in Mliba.
- Remaining kraals at Diamond C and Lomahasha will be inspected in the coming week.

ii. Awareness and sensitization meetings will be conducted as follows;

- On Tuesday the 27th January 2026, the abattoirs, meat inspectors, VAs, AHIs and VOs will meet in Manzini Veterinary Services to discuss the SOP on movement of livestock from the FMD guard area to the slaughter facilities.
- On Wednesday the 28th January 2026, an FMD awareness and sensitization meeting will be held at Mpisi Training Centre for the Mpisi Breeding, Mpisi Piggery and Mpisi Training staff.
- On Thursday the 29th January 2026, a sensitization meeting for the Lavumisa and Lubulini veterinary staff will be held at Lavumisa community hall to discuss the SOP on movement of slaughter stock to the abattoirs.